

AWARD
WINNING!

SCIENCE+ANIMALS+PUZZLES+PEOPLE+APPS+PHOTOS+BOOKS+SPORTS+ROSIE THE PENGUIN

THE WORLD'S BEST NEWS & FACTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

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Craft a
love-ly
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Making sense of the world



THE WEEK Junior

THE BEST
MAGAZINE FOR
CURIOUS
KIDS

Shaun White
USA



Eileen Gu
China



BEIJING 2022™

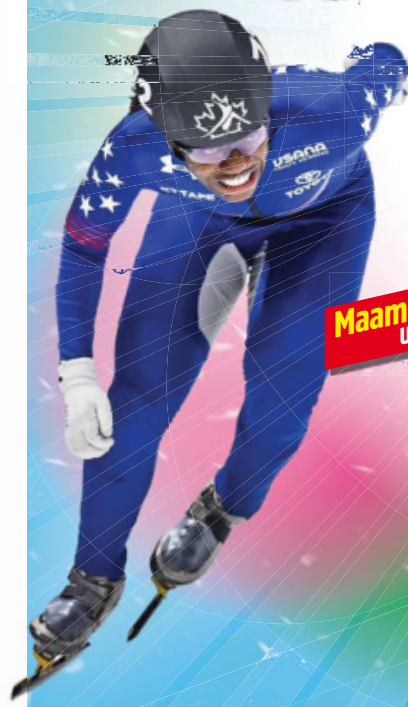
Kamila Valieva
Russia



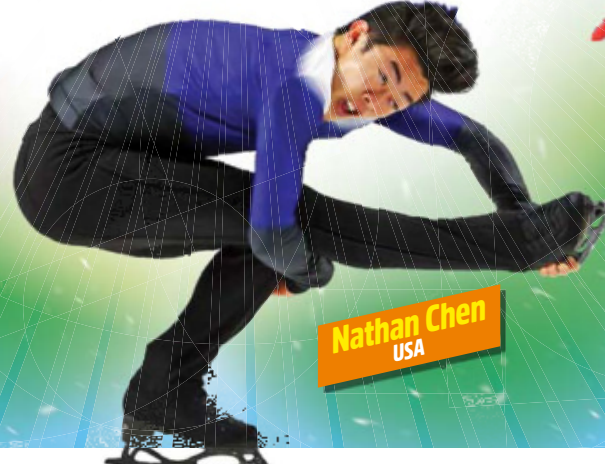
WINTER GAMES

The world's top athletes compete
at the Olympics **p18**

Maame Biney
USA



Nathan Chen
USA

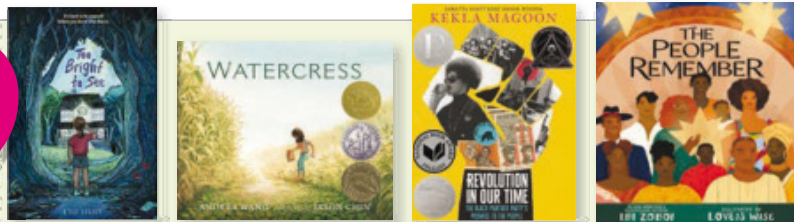




This week's big news

DOUBLE HONOR

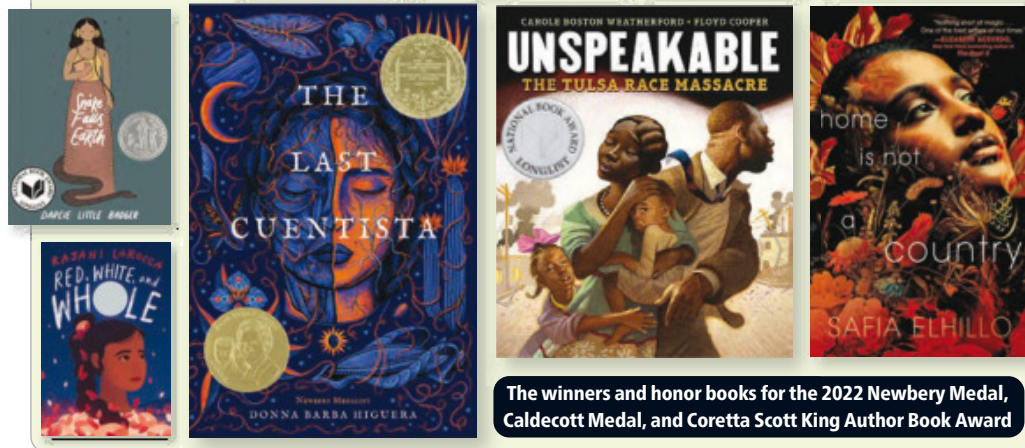
Children's book authors Kate DiCamillo and Lois Lawry have each won the Newbery Medal twice.



100 years of the Newbery



In 2022, the American Library Association is marking the 100th anniversary of the Newbery Medal with events and special merchandise, including designs created for the occasion by illustrators who have won the award. The festivities will wrap up at the ALA Annual Conference, to be held in June in Washington, DC.



The winners and honor books for the 2022 Newbery Medal, Caldecott Medal, and Coretta Scott King Author Book Award

Awards for children's literature

On January 24, the awards for the best books and digital media published for children and young adults during 2021 were announced. The American Library Association (ALA), the world's oldest and largest library organization, named the winners. The ALA issues the awards every year to celebrate the latest and best children's books and the authors, illustrators, and publishers who create them.

Which books won the awards?

The Newbery Medal, for best children's book, was given to *The Last Cuentista*. Each category has runners-up, called honor books. The honor books for the Newbery were *Red, White and Whole*, *A Snake Falls to Earth*, and *Too Bright to See*. The Coretta Scott King Author Book Award went to *Unspeakable: The Tulsa Race Massacre*. Honor books in this category were *Home Is Not a Country*, *Revolution in Our Time*, *The Black Panther Party's Promise to the People*, and *The People Remember*. *Watercress* won the Caldecott Medal, for the best American picture book. The runners-up for the Caldecott were *Have You Ever Seen a Flower?*,

Mel Fell, *Unspeakable: The Tulsa Race Massacre*, and *Wonder Walkers*.

What is the significance of the awards?

The Newbery Medal, first awarded in 1922, was the world's first children's book award. The award was named for 18th-century British bookseller John Newbery. The Coretta Scott King Award was created in 1969 to honor the life and work of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his wife, Coretta Scott King. Its goal is to honor a Black author of an outstanding book for children and young adults. The Caldecott Medal, established in 1937, was named in honor of 19th-century English illustrator Randolph Caldecott. The award is given to the illustrator of the best picture book by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the ALA.



Newbery winner
Donna Barba Higuera

What are the winning books about?

The Last Cuentista, by Donna Barba Higuera, tells the story of a girl, Petra, who embarks on a journey to another planet after Earth has been destroyed. In *Watercress*, written by Andrea Wang and illustrated by Jason Chin, a young girl learns about her family history

after her parents pull their car over to gather watercress. *Unspeakable: The Tulsa Race Massacre*, by Carole Boston Weatherford, is the story of one of the worst outbreaks of racial violence in US history. Last year marked 100 years since the massacre, in which hundreds of Black citizens died. The book's illustrator, Floyd Cooper, also won the ALA's award for top illustrator.

What was the reaction?

Higuera said she was stunned to win the award. "I completely just lost my cool," she told *School Library Journal*. "It's not something that you're expecting, and there's this initial shock and then the flood of emotions." Chin, the illustrator of *Watercress*, said he was pleased that the Caldecott award would result in the book reaching a larger audience. "The best thing that an award can do is get a book in the hands of more readers," he told *Publishers Weekly*.

What will happen next?

The winning books and honor books will be reprinted with a special seal that represents their award on the cover. Being named a winning book or honor book can more than double a book's sales, so book publishers may prepare to print more copies.



Tensions rise over Russia and Ukraine

President Joe Biden announced that the US will impose economic sanctions (punishment) on Russia if Russia invades a neighboring country called Ukraine. Russian President Vladimir Putin denies plans to invade, but he has positioned about 130,000 troops on his country's border with Ukraine.

Russia and Ukraine were part of the former Soviet Union (USSR, a group of countries ruled from Russia) until the USSR collapsed in 1991 and Ukraine declared independence. Since then, Russia has tried to illegally seize control of parts of Ukraine, and the US and NATO (a military alliance of 30 countries, including the US) have helped Ukraine. Ukraine is not a NATO member but would like to be.

Although Putin's intentions at the border are unclear, many world leaders say he wants to limit NATO's role in the region. Putin has accused the US of trying to cause trouble and demanded that NATO deny membership to Ukraine. When *The Week Junior* went to press, talks were ongoing among Russia, the US, and other NATO countries.



Russian tanks near Ukraine

Candles burn in remembrance of the Holocaust.



DID YOU KNOW?
The US Holocaust Memorial Museum opened in Washington, DC, in 1993.

Remembering the Holocaust

People worldwide observed International Holocaust Remembrance Day on January 27 to honor victims and survivors of one of the worst chapters in world history. The Holocaust was the killing of 6 million Jewish people and millions of others by the German Nazi Party from the late 1930s through World War Two (1939–1945).

The United Nations (a group of 193 nations working for peace and cooperation) established Holocaust Remembrance Day in 2005. They chose January 27 because it was on that date in 1945 that a concentration camp (a place where Nazis imprisoned and killed people) called Auschwitz was liberated.

The theme for this year's commemoration was "Memory, Dignity, and Justice." People

marked the occasion in different ways, including at events that were virtual due to the pandemic. The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum aired a virtual program with survivors of the Holocaust. The UN Chamber Music Society performed a virtual concert honoring victims. German and Israeli leaders laid wreaths at a Holocaust memorial in Germany's capital, Berlin.

Survivors and historians say it's important for young people to learn about the Holocaust so it will not be forgotten—or repeated. Ruth Steinfeld, an 88-year-old Holocaust survivor living in Texas, recently shared her story at a high school in Houston. "I want you to know this really happened. It happened to me," she told students. "We cannot let it happen again."



IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

HONORING AN ARTIST

The US Postal Service (USPS) has issued a new stamp that honors groundbreaking American artist Edmonia Lewis. She was a sculptor in the 19th century and the first Black and Native American artist to gain international fame. The stamp is the 45th release in the USPS's Black Heritage Series.



The new stamp



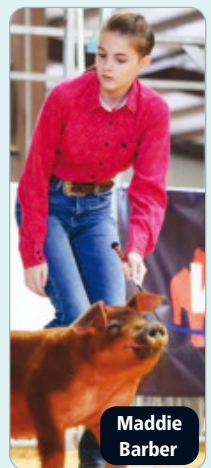
Rosie

CELEBRATING DIFFERENCES

Rosie the penguin is helping kids learn that it's OK to be different—just like her. Rosie was born with problems with her bones and has a unique waddle. Now visitors to Arizona's OdySea Aquarium can meet her and hear her story. "She does everything that a penguin does," said a keeper. "She just does it a little differently."

A GIFT OF GRATITUDE

When Maddie Barber, age 17, entered her pigs in a livestock show in Texas, she hoped to win a few thousand dollars. Instead, she walked away with \$30,500—and donated it all to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, where she had cancer treatment at age 12. "I wanted to give back in some way," she said.



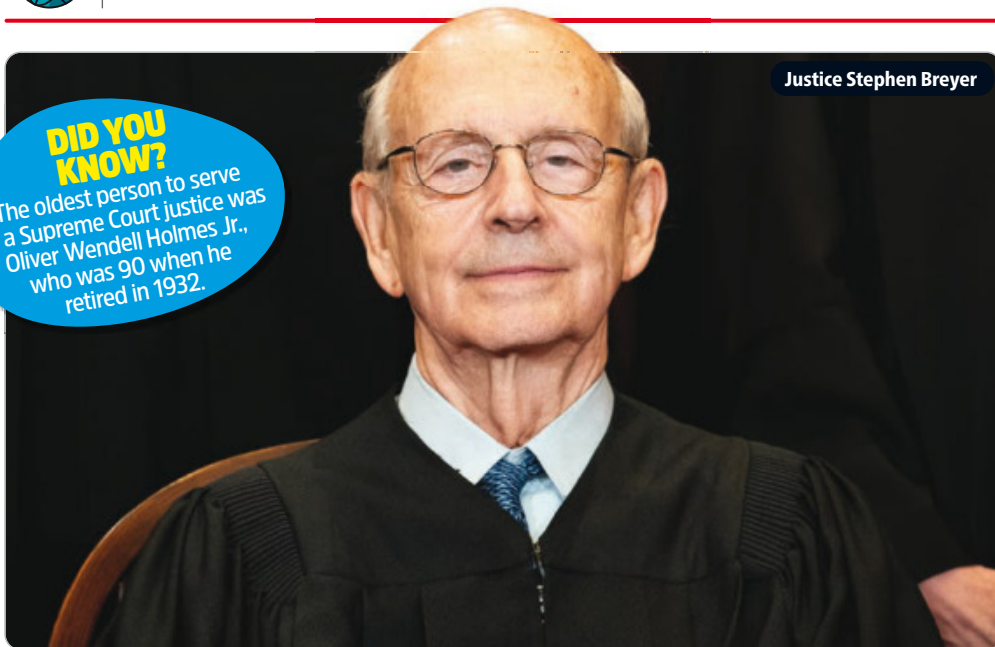
Maddie Barber



Justice Stephen Breyer

DID YOU KNOW?

The oldest person to serve as a Supreme Court justice was Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr., who was 90 when he retired in 1932.



Supreme Court season



The Court's term of work is often referred to as "Supreme Court season." It begins the first Monday of October. For nine months, the justices listen to arguments from all sides of a case and write opinions (decisions). In June, the court issues its opinions for most of the term's big cases before adjourning for the summer.

Supreme Court justice announces retirement

Stephen Breyer, a justice on the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) for 27 years, announced his retirement on January 27 at the White House. Breyer is one of the nine judges, called justices, who make up the Supreme Court, the nation's most powerful court of law.

Who is Justice Breyer?

Breyer, the oldest of the current justices at age 83, was nominated by President Bill Clinton, a Democrat, in 1994. Previously, Breyer was a federal judge for a lower court. He said his goal as a justice was to reinforce democracy. Most recently, in 2021, he wrote the majority court opinion (decision) in cases to protect free speech and to uphold a law that provides Americans with health insurance.

Why is his retirement significant?

SCOTUS justices are nominated by the President and have lifetime appointments. They can remain on the court until they quit, retire, or die. Breyer is widely believed to have timed his retirement so President Joe Biden, a Democrat, could nominate someone to replace him. After a President names a nominee, the person attends a hearing in the Senate (one half of Congress) to answer questions. Senators then vote on whether to approve the nominee. Democrats have control of the Senate, which means Biden's choice could be approved.

What has been the reaction?

Biden thanked Breyer for his "remarkable career of public service" and for making "our country's laws work for its people." John Roberts, the Supreme

Court's chief justice (top judge), expressed admiration for Breyer's love of his country—and said he would miss Breyer's "collection of riddles and knock-knock jokes," revealing a glimpse of how the justices get to know one another when not in court. Senator Mitch McConnell, the Senate's top Republican leader, said Breyer "commands respect and affection across the legal world."

What will happen next?

Biden said he will announce his nominee to replace Breyer by the end of February and that he would nominate a Black woman. If approved, the nominee would be the first Black woman to become a Supreme Court justice and the sixth woman out of the 115 justices who have served on the court since 1789.



WORD OF THE WEEK

MINIATURE

Before printing was invented, the first letters of a book's chapters were drawn by hand. These letters often included small images, drawn in a red pigment called "vermilion," or *minium* in Latin. In Italian, these images were called "miniatura." People thought this word referred to the small size of the image rather than the red paint, and so "miniature" came to mean small in English.

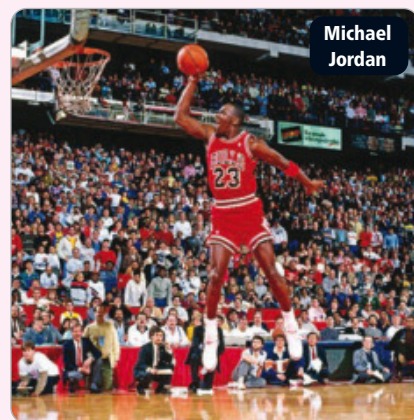


THE WEEK IN HISTORY

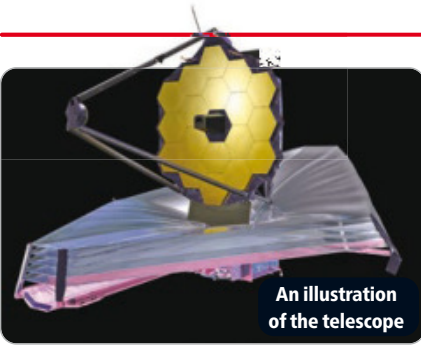
February 6, 1988

Michael Jordan makes famous slam dunk

On February 6, 1988, Michael Jordan of the Chicago Bulls made his famous slam dunk during the National Basketball Association's Dunk Contest. He leaped from the free throw line to make the basket, reinforcing his nickname of Air Jordan. The incredible dunk inspired the Jumpman logo, which later appeared on Nike's Air Jordan sneakers.



Michael Jordan



An illustration of the telescope

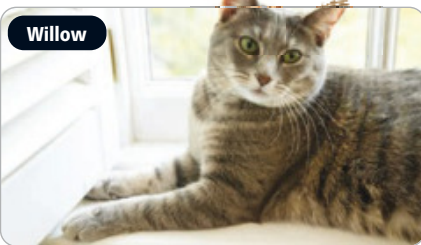
New telescope arrives in space

The world's most powerful telescope, which was launched into space on December 25, has arrived at its destination. The James Webb Space Telescope is about 930,000 miles away from Earth. NASA, the US space agency, oversaw its launch with support from the European and Canadian space agencies. It will spend 10 years sending images back to Earth. Scientists hope the telescope can see further into space and further back in time than ever before.



Electric bikes rise in popularity

More Americans are buying electric bikes, new data suggests. An electric bike has a motor that provides power when pedaling. The US imported (brought in from another country to sell) nearly 790,000 electric bikes in 2021, a major increase over the 463,000 bikes that were imported in 2020. The jump in imports indicates that the interest in using electric bikes may continue in 2022.



Willow

White House welcomes pet cat

President Joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden have adopted a 2-year-old gray tabby cat named Willow. She is the first cat to move into the White House in about 30 years. The First Lady met the cat at a Pennsylvania farm in 2020 and named her for her hometown, Willow Grove, Pennsylvania. Willow joins Commander, a German shepherd puppy that came to the White House in December.



ANCIENT TREES

Redwood trees can live for more than 2,000 years.

The forest in California

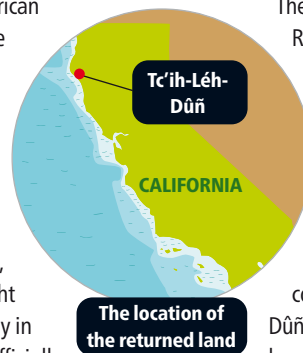
Redwood forest returned to tribes

On January 25, a redwood forest in northern California was reunited with the people who originally lived there. The group will serve as guardians of the forest as part of a conservation project.

The 523-acre forest was inhabited for thousands of years by Native American tribes. They used the land for hunting, fishing, and ceremonies. But European American settlers forced the tribes to leave the area. For more than 175 years, tribal members have been unable to go there. Most recently, a family-run logging business, which turns trees into timber, owned the land.

Save the Redwoods League, a nonprofit organization, bought the land from the logging family in 2020. This week, the League officially transferred ownership of the land to the InterTribal Sinkyone Wilderness Council, a group of 10 local Native tribes. Council leaders said that tribal members are excited about the return of sacred land.

The area used to be known as Andersonia West and has now been renamed Tc'ih-Léh-Dũñ (pronounced tsih-ih-LEY-duhn), which means "Fish Run Place." Renaming it in a Native language lets people know "that there was a people who lived there long before now," said Crista Ray, a leader of the InterTribal Sinkyone Wilderness Council.



Tc'ih-Léh-Dũñ

CALIFORNIA

The location of the returned land

The Council will work with Save the Redwoods League to protect the forest—including the redwood trees and endangered animals that live there, such as northern spotted owls, yellow-legged frogs, and steelhead trout. The Council already conserves 180,000 acres along the Sinkyone coast, the region where Tc'ih-Léh-Dũñ is located. Eventually, the Council hopes to connect, repair, and expand all the nearby redwood forests.

"It's a real blessing," said Priscilla Hunter, chairwoman of the InterTribal Sinkyone Wilderness Council, about the return of the land. "It's like a healing for our ancestors."

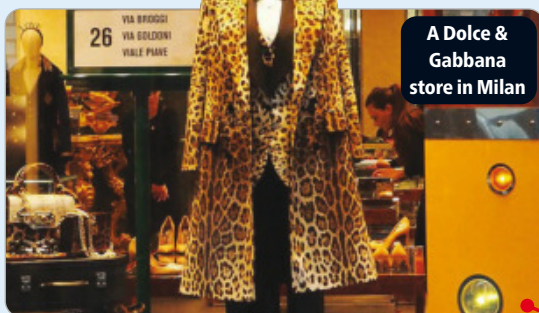
THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

"Florida teacher has snowman mailed to class from Kentucky" UPI





Around the world



A Dolce & Gabbana store in Milan



Milan, Italy

Designer to stop using real fur

The luxury fashion company Dolce & Gabbana announced that it will begin using fake fur in its clothing designs this year, instead of real animal fur. Other fashion houses, including Armani, Prada, and Versace, have also stopped using animal fur. "The entire fashion system has a significant social responsibility role that must be promoted and encouraged," a Dolce & Gabbana spokesperson said.



The upside-down house



Guatavita, Colombia

Upside-down house proves popular

An upside-down house was opened to the public following the easing of Covid-19 restrictions. Visitors can walk on the ceilings where floors should be and take photos with furniture positioned underneath them. The house was designed by a man named Fritz Schall, who was inspired by a similar upside-down house in Austria. A visitor said the house "helps people have a moment of relaxation."



Gabriel Boric (center) with the cabinet



Santiago, Chile

Majority-female cabinet announced

Gabriel Boric, the new president of Chile, has named a majority-female cabinet. The cabinet is a group of ministers (known as "secretaries" in the US cabinet) who help run the government. There will be 14 women and 10 men in Boric's cabinet, with an average age of 49. At 35, Boric will be Chile's youngest president ever when he takes power on March 11.



Azaz, Syria

Help arrives for refugees

Charities are providing food, water, blankets, and medicine to thousands of refugees (people forced to flee their homes to escape danger) in Syria. Snowstorms have struck the region and left the refugees, who fled their homes due to conflict in Syria that has lasted nearly 11 years, struggling to keep warm and find food.



A refugee camp in Azaz



La Paz, Bolivia

Festival of hope

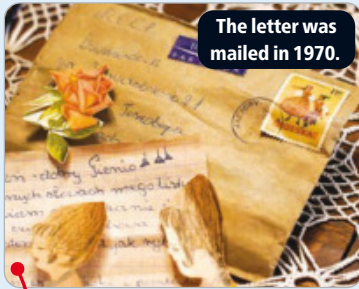
On January 24, the Aymara Festival of Alasita began in Bolivia's capital, La Paz. In one of the nation's oldest traditions, people buy miniature objects to be blessed in the hope that their wishes for the year will come true. This year miniatures related to good health, such as vaccination cards and Covid-19 tests, were popular. La Paz's mayor, Ivan Arias, bought a miniature hospital and said, "We want a lot of health."



The festival

ALAMY (3); REUTERS; COURTESY OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF NIJMEGEN; GETTY IMAGES (3); KOLONIA; KLEIN VISION

Around the world



The letter was mailed in 1970.



Lithuania Letter arrives 51 years later

A letter written to a 12-year-old girl in Lithuania has arrived 51 years late. It was sent by a friend in Poland in 1970 and delivered in December. The recipient, Genovefa Klonovska, who is now in her 60s, said she first thought the letter, which arrived with two paper dolls and a hand-colored rose, was a prank.



The flying car



Bratislava, Slovakia Flying car gets approval

Following 70 hours of test flights and 200 takeoffs and landings, a flying car has been given approval to fly by Slovakian government regulators. The hybrid car-aircraft, AirCar, can reach a speed of 100 mph. It runs on petrol-pump fuel and takes two minutes and 15 seconds to turn from car to aircraft. In June 2021, it completed its first flight in Slovakia. The car makers now plan to fly it from Paris to London.



Storm damage in Malawi

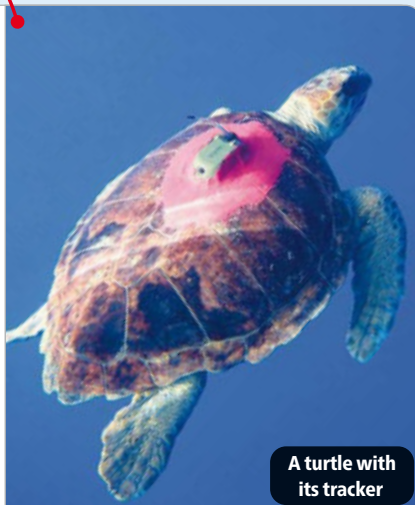
Southern and eastern Africa Powerful storm devastates countries

Tropical storm Ana has affected hundreds of thousands of people in southeast Africa. The storm swept through Madagascar on January 22 before moving to Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The heavy rain and strong winds have destroyed buildings, homes, and crops and left people without power. At least 88 people have died. Rescue operations are underway to help those affected.



Réunion Island Turtles help scientists study cyclones

Two sea turtles, named Tiago and Arthur, have been fitted with trackers to help scientists learn more about cyclones (tropical storms that form over the South Pacific and the Indian Ocean). The turtles were released into the sea near Réunion, in the Indian Ocean, and their trackers will send back live data demonstrating what happens in the water when a cyclone comes.



A turtle with its tracker



Rafael Nadal



Melbourne, Australia Historic tennis tournament victory

Rafael Nadal of Spain won the Australian Open tennis championship on January 30. The Australian Open is one of four Grand Slam tournaments, the sport's most prestigious competitions. Nadal, age 35, now has 21 Grand Slam wins in his career, the most of all time, breaking a three-way tie with Novak Djokovic of Serbia and Roger Federer of Switzerland.



The big debate

Should US schools teach life skills classes?

Many schools have dropped classes that teach skills like cooking and sewing.

What you need to know

- Life skills classes, which are also called “family and consumer sciences” or “home economics,” teach students practical skills like how to cook, sew, clean, or budget their money.
- These classes teach skills needed for living and working in a diverse global society, according to the New York State Education Department.
- Education experts say many schools eliminated these classes after they became more focused on test scores in subjects like reading and math.



For more than 35 years, life skills classes (also called “family and consumer sciences” or “home economics”) have been disappearing from US schools. That means students are not being taught many of the things they need to know when they’re an adult living on their own. Life skills classes teach students how to stick to a budget, cook for themselves, manage their money, and have healthy personal relationships. These classes often give students real-life problems to handle. Some schools say these classes aren’t important and focus only on academic knowledge to get into college. What do you think? Should schools teach life skills?

Yes—these are skills everyone needs

Life skills classes help students prepare for responsibilities they will need to handle in the real world, from loading a dishwasher to changing a car tire to preparing a meal. These classes give students knowledge they need to live independently, whether they go away to college or get a job. Many of these classes also teach “soft skills,” like listening and positive communication, which are valuable traits to have in the work world and in personal relationships. As students gain more life skills, they become more confident in themselves and their ability to handle any situation.

No—kids can learn on their own

There are ways for children to learn life skills without classes at school. They can watch videos on the internet or take classes on platforms such as Outschool. It should also be the responsibility of parents to teach their children much of what they need to learn, such as being financially responsible. Many students feel life skills classes won’t help them get into a competitive university because colleges do not value domestic skills as highly as other kinds of knowledge. For that reason, students are less likely to choose to take life skills classes, so it makes sense that fewer schools are offering them.

YES

Three reasons why US schools should teach life skills classes

- 1 They help prepare students for everyday real-life situations, such as cooking a meal and managing money.
- 2 These classes also teach empathy, listening, and communication, which are important skills in relationships and at work.
- 3 Knowing basic life skills helps students become more confident.

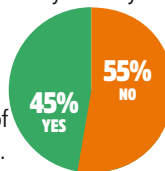
NO

Three reasons why US schools should not teach life skills classes

- 1 It’s more important to teach academics than life skills in school.
- 2 Many students choose not to take these classes because they don’t improve their chances of getting into college.
- 3 These skills should be taught at home, by caregivers, and should not be the responsibility of the school.

LAST WEEK’S POLL

Last week we asked if parents should track their children when they’re away from home. More of you said no, but nearly half of you said yes.



What do you think?

Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, have a parent or guardian visit theweekjunior.com/polls with you so you can vote in our debate. Vote **YES** if you think US schools should teach life skills classes or **NO** if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.

The goal of the big debate is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.



Writing from the heart

Hollywood has taken notice of author Kate DiCamillo's novels.

Kate DiCamillo, author of award-winning novels like *The Tale of Despereaux* and *Flora & Ulysses*, didn't always dream of becoming a famous writer. "I wanted to be a veterinarian," she told *The Week Junior*.

While growing up in Florida, however, she was always a big reader, she said. DiCamillo was frequently sick with a condition called chronic pneumonia. As she rested in bed, she sought adventure through books.

In college, an English professor said DiCamillo had a way with words. Her path to becoming a writer didn't happen quickly, though. It took her 10 years before she began writing. She started with short stories for adults.

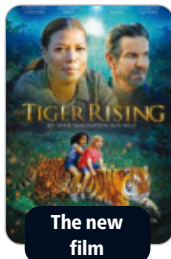
A job in the children's department at a book warehouse introduced her to *The Watsons Go to Birmingham — 1963*, a

historical-fiction novel that inspired her to start writing for children. "I was so taken with that book that I wanted to try to do something like it," she said.

DiCamillo has now written more than 25 children's novels. Her first book, *Because of Winn-Dixie*, about the relationship between a lonely girl and a stray dog, was turned into a major motion picture in 2005. Her second novel, *The Tiger Rising*, is about a boy who finds a caged tiger in the woods near his home. The book is now a new film starring Queen Latifah and

Katharine McPhee.

While DiCamillo enjoys seeing her work on the big screen, it's never been her main goal. She writes what she sees and is still astonished that her work has been published so many times. "I'm always trying to tell the story as well as I can," she said.



The new film



Kate DiCamillo

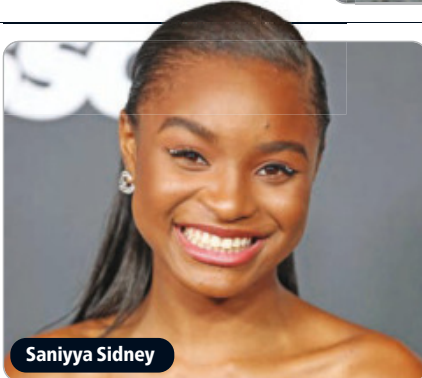
TOP PRIZE
The Newbery Medal, which Kate DiCamillo has won twice, is considered the first children's book award in the world.

From sports to chef

Pro football player Jared Veldheer has taken on a new challenge after retiring from the National Football League. His kids' school in Grand Rapids, Michigan, needed someone to cook lunch for about 260 students. Veldheer, who is passionate about nutrition, took the job and updated the menu. Greasy pizza and chicken nuggets were out, and smoked carnitas and mashed cauliflower were in. His changes are a hit. "It took a while to capture some trust from the kids," he told *The Washington Post*. "Kindergartners are my toughest critics."



Jared Veldheer



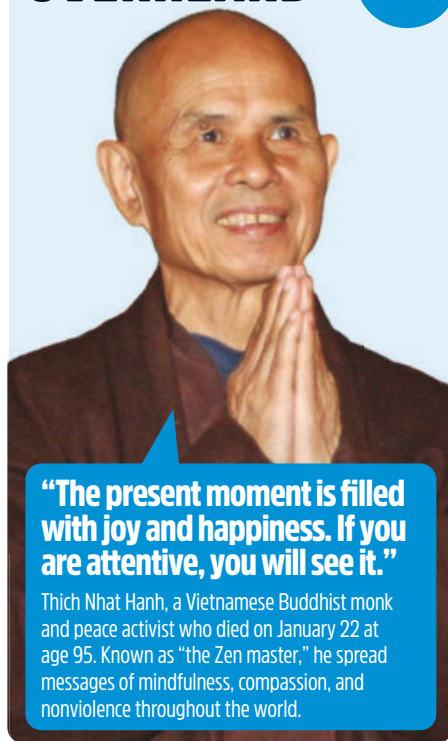
Saniyya Sidney

Actress's star turn

Actress Saniyya Sidney, 15, has appeared on screen with some of Hollywood's biggest stars. Now she's been nominated for Best Young Actor/Actress at the 2022 Critics Choice Awards for her role as tennis champion Venus Williams in the 2021 film *King Richard*. In the upcoming Showtime series *The First Lady*, Sidney will play Sasha Obama, the younger daughter of Barack and Michelle Obama (played by Viola Davis). Sidney said the series will show what the family's life was like in the White House. "I think it's going to be a beautiful story," she told *Women's Wear Daily*.

OVERHEARD

“ ”



"The present moment is filled with joy and happiness. If you are attentive, you will see it."

Thich Nhat Hanh, a Vietnamese Buddhist monk and peace activist who died on January 22 at age 95. Known as "the Zen master," he spread messages of mindfulness, compassion, and nonviolence throughout the world.



Animals and the environment

WOW!
An adult female blanket octopus weighs 40,000 times more than a male.



The blanket octopus

Spotting a squid

Scientists using a robot submarine to explore the world's deepest known shipwreck made a startling squid discovery. Video from the sub, in the Pacific Ocean, revealed a mysterious bigfin squid, the deepest-living squid known to science. The sighting is the first record of the animal at a depth of more than 3.7 miles.



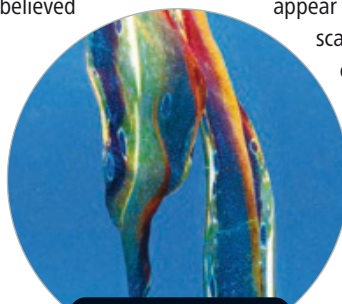
A bigfin squid

Incredibly rare octopus sighting

A spectacular and rarely seen blanket octopus has been spotted off the coast of Queensland, in Australia. It is believed to be only the fourth time the animal has been reported in the area and one of the few times anyone has seen it in the wild anywhere. Marine wildlife expert and diver Jacinta Shackleton, who encountered the rainbow-like female, said, "Seeing one in real life is indescribable."

The blanket octopus is a remarkable animal that gets its name from web-like sheets of thin tissue that stretch between some of its arms. It's only the females

that develop these beautifully colored "capess," which they spread out to make themselves appear larger and more threatening to scare away predators. If they feel especially threatened, they can remove the cape and use it as a distraction. They can also use their cape as a weapon to strike out at a possible predator.



Blue spots on the cape confuse predators.

Female blanket octopuses can grow up to six feet long, but males are much, much smaller—less than an inch

long. This is one of the biggest size differences known between males and females in the animal kingdom.

Males (and smaller young females) can protect themselves with another clever tactic. They are immune to the stings of dangerous jellyfish, so the octopuses sometimes pull off the tentacles of jellyfish and use them as a weapon to protect themselves.

Shackleton made the unexpected sighting while snorkeling in shallow water off Lady Elliot Island on Australia's famous Great Barrier Reef. She recalled her "overwhelming sense of joy and excitement" when she saw the female blanket octopus. "I've truly never seen anything like it before and don't think I ever will again," she said. The octopuses are rarely spotted by divers because the animals spend nearly all their lives swimming far out to sea in the deep waters of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.



PLACE OF THE WEEK

Goblin Valley State Park, Utah

Dotted with thousands of sandstone formations called hoodoos, whose odd shapes are thought to resemble goblins, Goblin Valley State Park sits at an elevation of 5,000 feet. The park is also known for offering spectacular views of night skies—a lack of artificial light in the area allows for the stars to shine bright and clear. Praying mantises and coyotes can be seen in the park. Pronghorn, a deer-like animal that can run at speeds of up to 60 miles per hour, live here too. They are the fastest land mammal in North America.



A pronghorn



A brown bear in Katmai

BEAR HAVEN

About 2,200 brown bears live in Alaska's Katmai National Park.

Brown bears change up their diet

Female brown bears in Hallo Bay, in Alaska's Katmai National Park and Preserve, are eating significantly less salmon than they were three decades earlier, researchers have found.

In 1989, salmon made up 62% of the bears' diets. In 2017, the percentage dropped to 28%. Researchers reached this conclusion after analyzing bear blood and hair samples and observing bears in the area. The exact reasons for the change are unknown, but a decline in available salmon is likely to be a key cause.

In place of salmon, the bears have been eating more berries, sedges (a type of grasslike plant), and leafy vegetation. The long-term effects, if any, this change in diet may have on the bears are not yet known. Eating salmon does help bears put on fat, and that helps them produce cubs. Further research is needed to see if these bears might start struggling to make cubs.

The bears of Katmai Park are famous for putting on large amounts of weight for winter. During Fat Bear Week, the public votes online to pick the biggest bear.

Animal of the week

Japanese fire-bellied newt

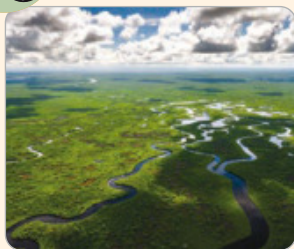


Scientists studying Japanese fire-bellied newts have found that these amphibians can regrow their skin without scars. They hope the discovery could help in developing treatments for human scarring after surgery.

- **LIFE SPAN:** About 10 to 15 years
- **HABITAT:** Forests, ponds, and streams in Japan
- **SIZE:** 3.5 to 4.7 inches long
- **DIET:** Earthworms, insects, and maggots
- **FUN FACT:** Its colorful underside warns predators that its skin holds dangerous poison.



Good week / Bad week



Florida Everglades

The US government announced plans to spend over \$1 billion to restore the Florida Everglades. The funds will be used to protect the wetlands preserve, home to at-risk species like the American crocodile, from a warming climate.



Sequoia trees

Wildfires in California are threatening its ancient sequoia trees. The trees grow up to 295 feet tall and can live more than 3,000 years. They have bark that resists most forest fires, but recent intense blazes have burned them down.



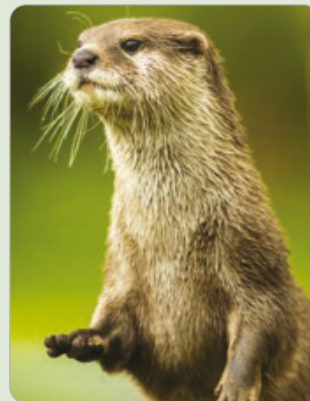
"What is the Asian small-clawed otter's favorite thing to do?"

Cadence, 9, Texas

Jamie Quirk

Natural encounters keeper, Houston Zoo

Its favorite thing to do — besides eating — is playing! You can often see these otters juggling pebbles and wrestling one another. Asian small-clawed otters spend about half their day in the water, which is not as much as most other otter species. They also enjoy hunting and resting.



Do you have a question for a zookeeper? Send it to hello@theweekjunior.com. Find out more about the Houston Zoo at houstonzoo.org.



Football's biggest day

Learn about the exciting history of America's favorite sporting event.

Are you ready for some football? On Sunday, February 13, the Los Angeles Rams will take on the Cincinnati Bengals in Super Bowl 56 at SoFi Stadium in California.



The first Super Bowl

Big game beginnings

The National Football League (NFL) was founded in 1920 with 10 teams. The American Football League (AFL) was formed in 1959, and a championship game with the best team from each league was first played in 1967. Some people say a team owner suggested calling it the Super Bowl, while others claim the press coined the term. In 1970, the leagues joined forces under the NFL name. Today, 32 NFL teams are divided into two conferences: the National Football Conference (NFC) and the American Football Conference (AFC).

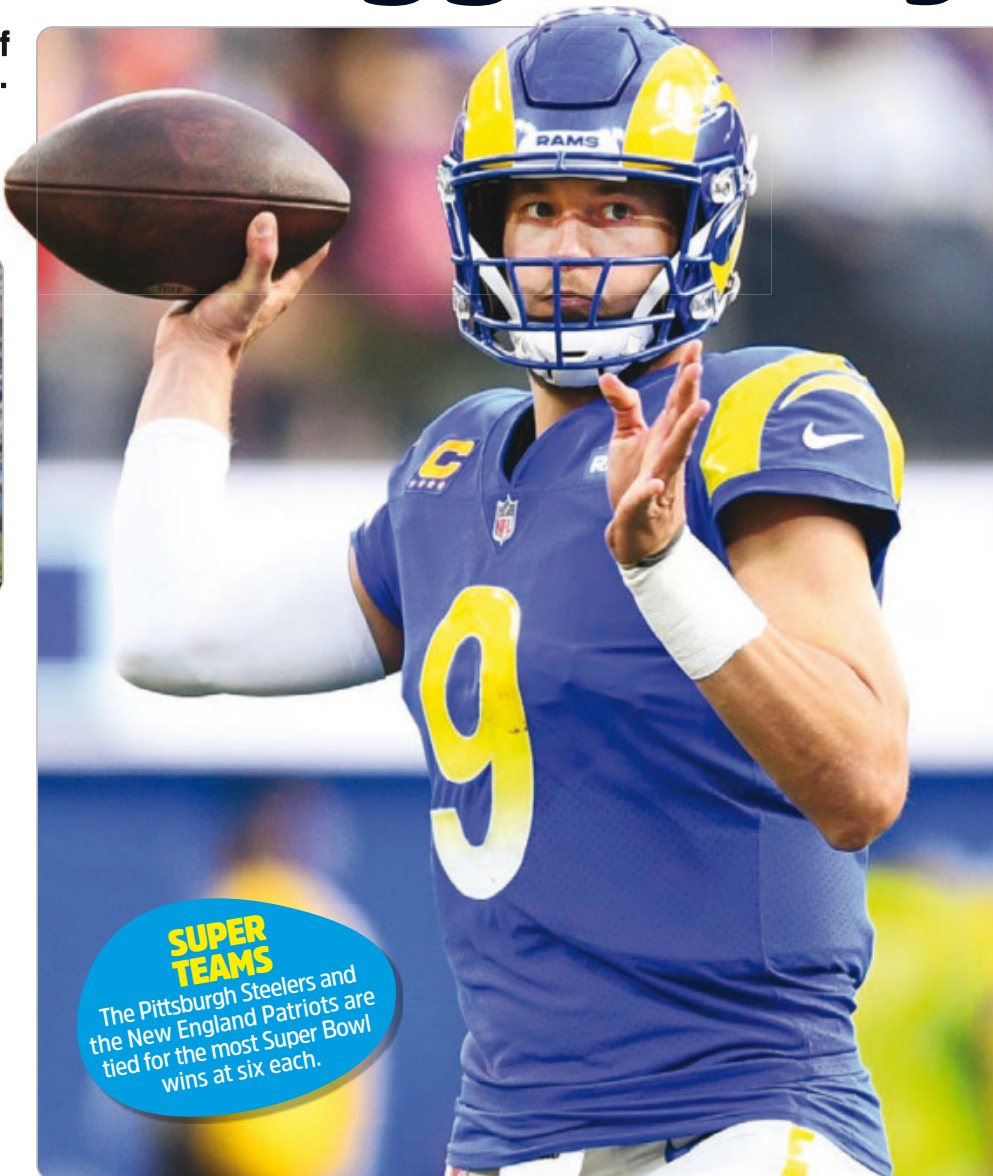
How it works

Each conference is divided into four divisions—East, West, North, and South—and the team with the most wins in its division heads to the playoffs. In addition, the three next-best teams in each conference get a Wild Card spot, for a total of 14 teams.

They compete against each other until two teams—one from each conference—are left standing.

Those teams meet at the Super Bowl. At the end of the game, the winner gets to hoist the Vince Lombardi Trophy, which is named after the legendary head coach of the Green Bay Packers. Each player on the winning team also receives a Super Bowl ring.

The Vince Lombardi Trophy



SUPER TEAMS

The Pittsburgh Steelers and the New England Patriots are tied for the most Super Bowl wins at six each.

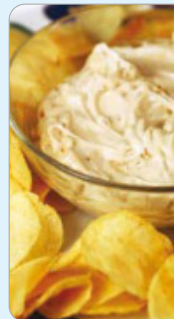
Super snacks

At game-day gatherings around the country, the food is almost as important as the action on the field. The most popular Super Bowl snacks are chicken wings, chips and dips, and pizza.



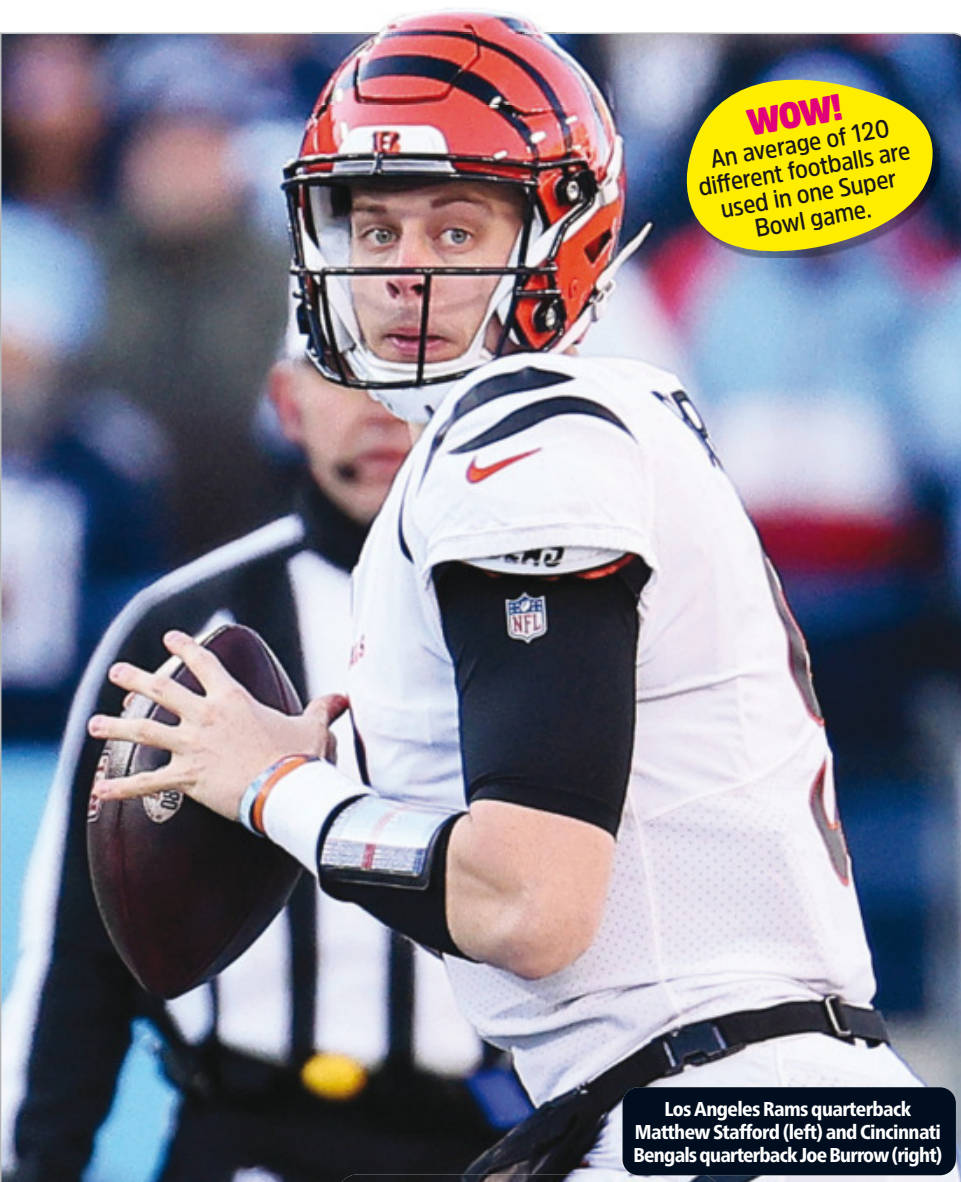
Chicken wings

The National Chicken Council says football fans eat more than 1.4 billion wings on Super Bowl Sunday. A survey found that more than 50% of people said wings should be the game's official food. Wings come in flavors like BBQ, ranch, and sriracha.





takes the field



WOW!
An average of 120 different footballs are used in one Super Bowl game.

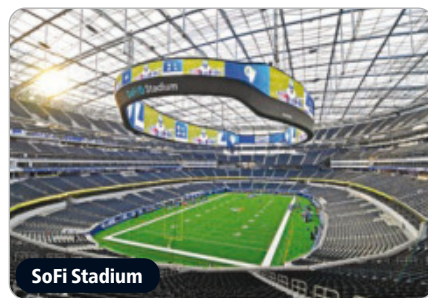
Los Angeles Rams quarterback Matthew Stafford (left) and Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Joe Burrow (right)



Joe Namath, #12

Memorable moments

The Super Bowl has a long list of shocking upsets and major rivalries. Before Super Bowl 3, the New York Jets were serious underdogs facing the Baltimore Colts. In what is still known as “the guarantee,” Jets quarterback Joe Namath boldly declared that his team would win—and they did. In 2008, the New England Patriots, who were undefeated, were a minute away from winning Super Bowl 42 over the New York Giants. Then Giants receiver David Tyree caught a pass by pressing the ball into his helmet. The Giants won—and Tyree’s “helmet catch” became one of the most famous moments in NFL history.



SoFi Stadium

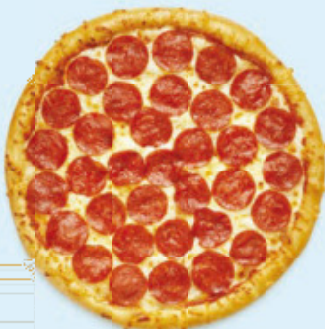
An American tradition

Football is an American sport, but the Super Bowl is a global event broadcast in more than 170 countries. In 2021, 96.4 million people watched the game. Even people who don’t love football get caught up in the excitement, tuning in for the commercials and the halftime show. In 2021, companies paid at least \$5.6 million to run a 30-second ad during the game, and Amazon paid \$16.8 million for the most expensive Super Bowl spot of all time. Halftime shows have evolved from marching bands to huge musical stars, and a record 118.5 million people watched Katy Perry in 2015. This year, rap legends Dr. Dre, Snoop Dogg, Eminem, and Kendrick Lamar will join Mary J. Blige onstage for the halftime performance.



Chips and dips

In a 2021 poll, 68% of people said chips and dip were their first choice for a game-day snack. Salsa was the number one dip. Cheesy dips took second place, while creamy French onion and guacamole came in third and fourth.



Pizza

Domino’s sells about 2 million pizzas on Super Bowl Sunday, while Pizza Hut sold more than 1.4 million pies during the 2021 Super Bowl. Most pizza lovers choose pepperoni as their topping and order about an hour before kickoff.



A rendering of the Clotilda crossing the ocean

DID YOU KNOW?
Thousands of ships were involved in the global slave trade, but only 13 have been found.

Studying America's last slave ship

The last known slave ship to arrive in the US is extremely well preserved, according to researchers. The ship is called the Clotilda, and its wreckage was found in Alabama's Mobile River by a journalist named Ben Raines in 2019. Since then, experts have been studying the shipwreck to learn more about the history of slavery in the US.

In 1860, the Clotilda sailed to Alabama from what is now the African country of Benin. It carried 110 people who had been forcibly taken from Africa to be sold as slaves in the US. Though slavery was still legal at the time, it had been declared illegal to bring new slaves into the country. The Clotilda's captain knew he was committing a crime. To destroy any evidence, he waited until everyone was off the ship and set fire to it. The Clotilda sank into the river.

Because the Mobile River is very muddy, archaeologists have been using sonar (sound waves that detect objects underwater) to examine the shipwreck. They have found that as much as two thirds of the Clotilda's wooden structure has survived. That includes the cramped, dark space in which 110 African men, women, and children

were held for the brutal 45-day voyage. The space, which was 23 feet across and less than seven feet high, was originally meant to carry lumber.

Researchers say the preserved condition of the wreckage provides an opportunity to understand what the people on the ship went through. "The

Clotilda is an essential historic artifact and a stark reminder of what transpired during the trans-Atlantic slave trade," said Lisa D. Jones, the head of the commission overseeing the research.

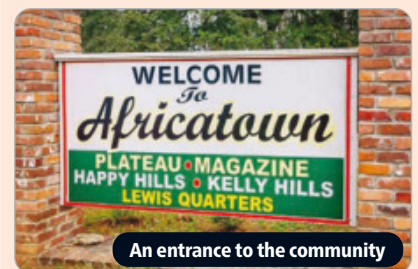
Experts believe they may find items preserved on the ship, including supplies such as meat, molasses, bread, and flour — and even traces of

human DNA (the chemical that carries all the information about a person's body and characteristics). The team plans to dig up parts of the wreck in March. They will also study the ship's decay to determine the best way to preserve it, in the hopes of creating a memorial at the site. Darron Patterson, whose great-great-grandfather arrived on the Clotilda, is hopeful that will happen. "We would like for that ship to be on display so the world never forgets," he said.



Ben Raines

Africatown USA



An entrance to the community

In 1872, a group of 32 formerly enslaved West Africans who had been brought to America on the Clotilda bought land and formed their own community near Mobile, Alabama. They named it Africatown. For many years, people there spoke West African languages and carried on the traditions from their homeland. Today, about 100 of Africatown's approximately 2,000 residents are their descendants.

The discovery of the Clotilda has brought tourists and media to the area. There have been discussions among residents about how to tell the story of their historic community while also being considerate of the people who still live there. A new museum, the Africatown Heritage House, is set to open in the spring.



New tool identifies artists from brush strokes

Thanks to a new artificial intelligence (AI) tool, experts can examine tiny sections of a painting to determine exactly who painted it. Artificial intelligence (AI) is a computer technology that allows a machine to imitate human intelligence by learning as it goes along.

The technique analyzes brush strokes, which have unique characteristics similar to fingerprints, according to researchers at Case Western Reserve University in Ohio. They use a camera that takes close-up 3D images of a painting's surface, revealing patterns left by a brush. Those patterns are different depending on the artist. By studying sections of the painting as small as half a millimeter, the AI determines who painted it.

GREEK PAINTER
El Greco, born in 1541 in Greece, was famous for his religious paintings.

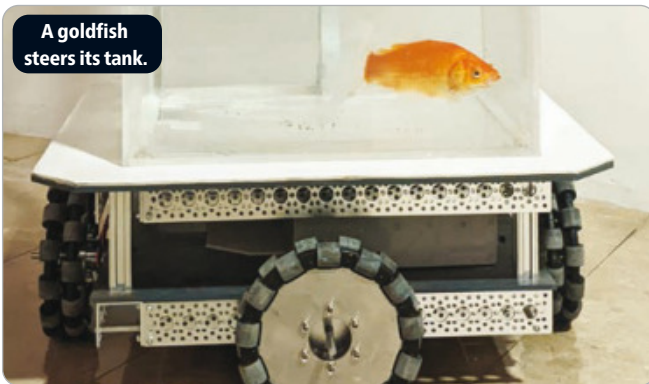
Historically, well-known artists often got help from students or assistants, who did some of the painting. The AI could help identify the brush strokes of different people who worked on the same painting. It could also help experts determine whether a piece is a forgery (fake). To test the technique, four art students painted the same image of a water lily. The AI tool was able to correctly determine which student painted which version by their brush strokes.

Next, the team of researchers will use the technology to study two paintings by El Greco, a painter who worked in the late 16th century. They hope to tell the difference between El Greco's brush strokes and those of his son, other artists, and art conservators.



An El Greco painting

A goldfish steers its tank.



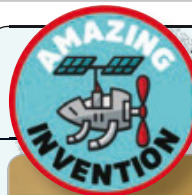
Goldfish learn how to "drive"

Researchers at a university in Israel have taught six goldfish how to "drive" a robotic car. The fish were in a tank placed on top of a wheeled platform. As the fish swam around the tank, the wheels moved in response, in the same direction.

Once the fish realized they were moving the platform, scientists gave them a target to drive toward. The fish received a treat if they reached it and soon learned to head to the target from different starting points.

The scientists then put obstacles and fake targets in the tank's way, which the fish learned to get around.

The researchers say their experiment supports the idea that all species can navigate and that goldfish can learn to move around in unfamiliar environments. "We want the fish to go outside and navigate a natural human environment," one of the researchers said. "We're looking forward to fish [cars] crawling all over campus."



Tags to keep dogs out of trouble



Wagz Tagz

A new device can keep dogs away from areas you don't want them to go. For example, slide one of the small cards between your sofa cushions or attach it to a trash can. Then pair the Wagz Tagz with a smart collar. When your dog gets too close to the tag,

the collar will vibrate or play sounds to keep the dog away from the restricted area.

An alert can also be sent to a phone when a pet tries to enter a restricted area. Dogs must still be trained to know what to do when their collar signals them, the company said.



Photos of the week



Year of the Tiger

In Malaysia, people in costume perform a traditional tiger dance ahead of the Lunar New Year.



Watch your step!

An expert mountain climber scales the ice at a Turkish ski center.



Feathered friends

Great white pelicans fish together on a cold day in India.

Photos of the week



Dancing lights

The aurora borealis creates a gorgeous glow in Finland.



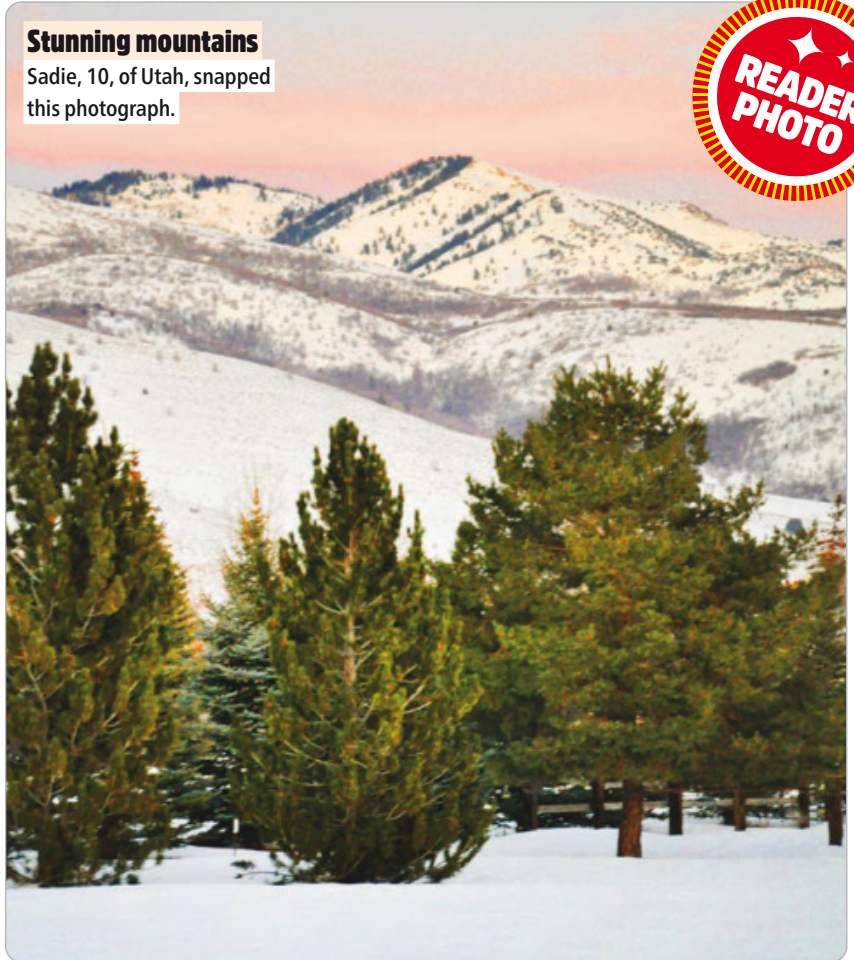
Beautiful view

A shopping center in Italy features a glass dome in the ceiling.



Stunning mountains

Sadie, 10, of Utah, snapped this photograph.





Get set for the Beijing

The global sports event is full of action and excitement.

The Winter Olympics, one of the biggest events in sports, have begun in Beijing, China. They will run for 16 days. About 3,000 winter sports athletes from more than 90 countries will compete across 15 different sports. There will be 109 medal events in all. Read on to find out about the new events this year, how to watch the Games, and which athletes to keep an eye on.



DID YOU KNOW?

All the snow at the Beijing Olympics has been made by machines.



Chinese skaters tested out the National Speed Skating Oval last year.

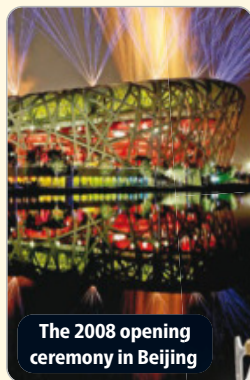
The venues

The Olympics will take place in 26 venues in Beijing as well as outside the city in the mountains of Zhangjiakou and Yanqing. Beijing hosted the Summer Olympics in 2008, and many of those venues are being reused, including the Beijing National Stadium, site of the opening and closing ceremonies. It is nicknamed the Bird's Nest because of its criss-crossed steel roof. The National Indoor Arena, known as the Fan, had been used for gymnastics and will now host ice hockey. The National Aquatics Center, once nicknamed the Water Cube, will be used for curling and called the Ice Cube. A new venue is the National Speed Skating Oval, called the Ice Ribbon. It will host speed skating competitions.

Viewer's guide to the games

Opening ceremony

The opening ceremony on February 4 will officially kick off the Olympics. Chinese filmmaker Zhang Yimou, who directed the opening and closing ceremonies at the Olympics in 2008, is in charge. Due to the pandemic, the event will be shorter and simpler than it has been in the past, but it will have 3,000 performers and a new way of lighting the Olympic flame. A recorded broadcast will air on NBC and Peacock in the US.



The 2008 opening ceremony in Beijing

Week one (February 2-February 10)

Luge and curling began on February 2. Olympic medals will start to be awarded on February 5 in **ski jumping, cross-country skiing, mogul skiing**, and more. This week, the US will try to win its first medal in **biathlon**. Also look out for top Americans **Joey Mantia** (speed skating), **Alysa Liu** (figure skating team competition), and **Jamie Anderson** (snowboard slopestyle).



Alysa Liu



Shaun White



Olympic preview



Games



Chloe Kim



The Bird's Nest



The Ice Cube



The Ice Ribbon

GOLDEN GLORY

The US is the only country that has won a gold medal at every Winter Olympics.

Week two (February 11–February 20)

As **snowboarding** starts to wrap up, Team USA's **Shaun White** may have a shot at a fourth Olympic gold. This week, also look for **skeleton** finals and more **alpine skiing**, **freestyle skiing**, and **speed skating**. **Ice hockey** medal rounds begin February 16. The US women, led by **Hilary Knight**, hope to defend their 2018 gold.

Hilary Knight

Closing ceremony

The Games conclude on February 20 with a closing ceremony at the Bird's Nest. When the Olympic flame is extinguished at the end of the ceremony, the 2022 Games will be officially over. The next Winter Olympics will take place in Milan, Italy, in 2026.

Who to watch

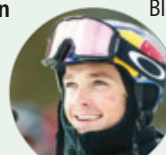
With athletes facing off on ice, twisting in the air, and zooming down mountains, there will be plenty of exciting performances to see. In women's figure skating, **Kamila Valieva**, a 15-year-old who is part of the Russian team, will be the one to beat. Among the men, look for American **Nathan Chen** and Japan's **Yuzuru Hanyu** to try medal-worthy quadruple jumps. On the slopes, Team USA's **Mikaela Shiffrin** is looking to win her third consecutive gold in alpine skiing and could become the most decorated US alpine skier in history. Her



Kamila Valieva



Nathan Chen



Scotty James



Maame Biney

top rival is Slovakian **Petra Vlhova**. Team USA's snowboarding star **Chloe Kim** aims to repeat her 2018 gold medal win in the halfpipe, while Japan's **Yuto Totsuka** and Australia's **Scotty James** will likely land on men's snowboarding podiums. American **Maame Biney**, the first Black woman and youngest member of the US speed skating team in 2018, hopes to claim her first medal. Expect Jamaica's four-man bobsled team to get attention, even if they aren't medal contenders. It's the country's first time at the Winter Games in more than 20 years.

New events

There will be seven new events this year. One is the monobob, a bobsled event for women. Bobsleds are usually raced by teams of two or four people, but a monobob is a sled raced by a single athlete. Team USA's **Elana Meyers Taylor** and **Kaillie Humphries** are both top contenders. Also new this year are men's and women's big air jumping events in freestyle skiing, previously held only in snowboarding. In the competitions, skiers will launch off a jump and do tricks in the air. One favorite is **Eileen Gu**, age 18. She was born in the US but competes for China. This year there will also be new mixed-gender team events in freestyle skiing aerobics, snowboard cross, ski jumping, and short track speed skating.



How to watch

Media from all over the world will be covering the Games. Viewers can watch them on NBC, NBC Sports Network, CNBC, USA, Telemundo, Golf Channel, NBCOlympics.com, and the Peacock and NBC Sports apps. (Due to the pandemic, NBC's announcers will be in the NBC Sports headquarters in Connecticut.) Beijing is 13 hours ahead of the eastern US, so live events may air in the middle of the night. Many popular events will be taped and will re-air during the evening when more people can watch.

Elana Meyers Taylor



Arts and entertainment



NAME CHANGE

When the Temptations formed in 1961, they were called The Elgins.

The Temptations in 1984

Legendary music group turns 60

The Temptations, known for “My Girl” and other classic hits, have a new album and documentary series on YouTube.

One of the most successful R&B (rhythm and blues) vocal groups of all time is celebrating their 60th anniversary. The Temptations, known for classic hits such as “My Girl” and “The Way You Do the Things You Do,” are honoring the occasion with a new album, *Temptations 60*, and a documentary series with the same title. Part one of the series is now on YouTube.

The new album features many new original songs. The first track, “Let It Reign,” is about a desire for social justice.

It features the line “We need peace, we need change.” Dr. Otis Williams, the only surviving original member of the Temptations, said, “The Tempts have always been reflective of the times.”

He added that their 1970 song “Ball of Confusion (That’s What the World Is Today)” still makes sense today.

The Temptations got their start in Detroit, Michigan. They became famous for their harmonies, choreography, and style. The group was part of Motown Records, a Black-owned business nicknamed Hitsville USA. Many top songs in the

1960s and 1970s were by Motown artists. Black and white people were sometimes divided during that time, and the music brought them together.

The Temptations have had four number one songs plus 16 number one R&B albums, and 14 number one R&B singles. They won four Grammys (a top music award) and are in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. They are also the subjects of the Broadway musical *Ain’t Too Proud: The Life and Times of the Temptations*, now touring the country.

Williams and The Temptations will also tour. “Music is a universal language, and I know our music, throughout the years, has brought people joy, comfort, and sometimes even hope,” he said.



The new album

3 more Motown legends



The Jackson 5

When the brothers came onto the music scene in 1969, they were ages 10 to 17. Their first four singles (“I Want You Back,” “ABC,” “The Love You Save,” and “I’ll Be There”) all hit number one, a feat that made history.

The Supremes

The trio was Motown Records’ top female artists. Their hits include “Baby Love,” “Stop in the Name of Love,” and “You Keep Me Hanging On.” After original lead singer Diana Ross left the group, she had a successful solo career of her own.



Diana Ross, right, and The Supremes



Stevie Wonder

At age 11, the blind singer and piano player signed with Motown. He had his first hit at age 13. He is considered a musical genius and has won 25 Grammy Awards, including one for his song “You Are the Sunshine of My Life.”



FUN FACT
Roald Dahl created a language of made-up words that he called Gobblefunk.

Benedict Cumberbatch

Roald Dahl stories will be adapted to film

A short story collection by popular author Roald Dahl is being brought to life. Award-winning writer and director Wes Anderson is currently making an adaption of Dahl's *The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar and Six More*, which was published in 1977. The film is being made for Netflix, which purchased the Roald Dahl Story Company in 2021.

Dahl is the author of classic books such as *The BFG* and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. He died in 1990. Anderson has been a fan of Dahl's work since he was a child. In 2009, he made the stop-motion animated film *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, based on Dahl's 1970 book of the same name. When he was writing that film, he spent time at Dahl's home, Gipsy House, in England.

It has been reported that the new film will focus mostly on the short story character of Henry Sugar but will also include some of the collection's other stories. British actor Benedict Cumberbatch will play Henry and some other parts. He is well known for his role as Doctor Strange in the Marvel movies. Actor Ralph Fiennes, who was Voldemort in the *Harry Potter* movies, is also in the cast.

Netflix is working on other Dahl projects, too. Directors Taika Waititi (*Thor: Ragnarok*) and Phil Johnston (*Wreck It Ralph*) will work on two. Ted Sarandos, the head of Netflix, has said that as they bring Dahl's tales to the screen, they are "committed to maintaining their unique spirit." Release dates have not been announced.



MOVIE NIGHT

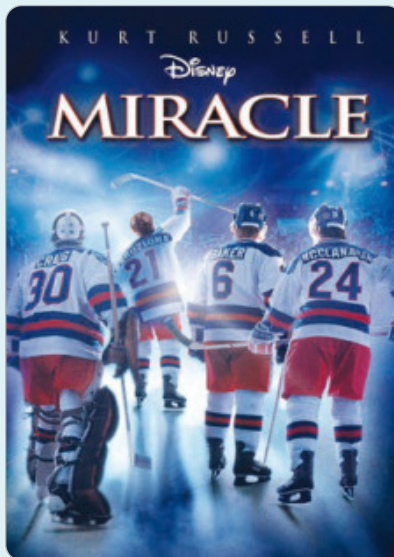
To celebrate the start of the Winter Olympics, watch this film about the 1980 US hockey team.

Miracle (2004)

Disney+

PG

This movie is based on the remarkable true story of the US men's hockey team that competed in the 1980 Winter Olympics. The team's coach was Herb Brooks, a player who had made three US Olympic hockey teams but never won a medal. Now he has a second chance when he's offered the opportunity to coach the 1980 team. The US and the Soviet Union (now Russia) are world rivals. There is pressure on the American team to not lose to the Soviets, who are nearly undefeated on the ice. Herb makes unusual choices when it comes to building his team, and they don't all get along at the start. He is hard on his players, which helps them bond. Will they be strong enough as a team to bring home the gold?



THIS WEEK'S WATCH LIST



Looney Tunes Cartoons Valentine's Day Extravaganza

(HBO Max)

Bugs Bunny and friends celebrate love in this holiday-themed special. Porky is getting ready for a big date, but first he has to keep Daffy from stealing his chocolates. Meanwhile, a large ape has a big crush on Bugs.



Trevor Noah

Kid of the Year

(Nickelodeon) February 9 at 7:30 pm ET

Comedian Trevor Noah hosts this event that honors five young leaders who have helped their communities in areas such as social justice and education. One will be named Kid of the Year. Celebrities including Rob Gronkowski and Scarlett Johansson will make appearances.



A royal penguin

Penguins: Meet the Family

(PBS) February 9 at 8 pm ET

For the first time, a documentary features all 18 species of penguins. They come from New Zealand, South Africa, the Galapagos Islands, and Antarctica. Learn how they bond and fight to survive, and also discover how scientists identify colonies of Emperor penguins.



On screen

DID YOU KNOW?

When an emperor's rule begins in Japan, the time period is given a special name. The current one is called Reiwa.



Pokémon Legends:
Arceus

Pokémon goes back in time

Pokémon Legends: Arceus is a new adventure role-playing game for the Nintendo Switch. It is part of the main Pokémon series.

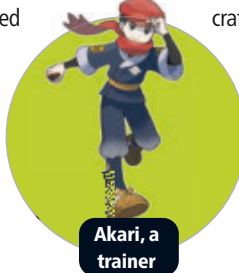
Arceus takes place before the events in last year's Pokémon Brilliant Diamond and Pokémon Shining Pearl. It is set during a time inspired by Japan's Meiji era (1868–1912). During that period, Japan adopted modern technologies, businesses, and customs.

Like other Pokémon games, you play this one as a young trainer who starts out with a single pokémon. As you travel the Hisui region's countryside and visit towns around Mount Coronet, you'll discover and catch pokémon, make friends, and battle with rivals. Your job is to complete the region's first full Pokédex (encyclopedia of pokémon).

There are several unique elements in Arceus. For example, the Pokédex is a hand-written notebook, not a digital tablet. Poké Balls, which are used to catch wild pokémon, are made of wood and powered by steam. Since items are made of natural material, you can make some yourself. This is called crafting, and it is the first time it has been part of a Pokémon game.

Battling in Arceus is also different. Instead of taking turns, fights flow based on the power and skills of the pokémon facing off.

The game has new versions of familiar pokémon, such as the Hisuian Growlithe. It is a bigger, furrer relative of the tiger-like Growlithe. There are also new pokémon, like the majestic Arceus. It is an Alpha, so it is bigger and stronger than others. The mythical creature will play a big role in your adventure.



Akari, a trainer



PODCAST OF THE WEEK

TOMORROW

tinyurl.com/TWJUS-Tomorrow

The famous musical *Annie* ends with the energetic young orphan finding a home with kindly millionaire Daddy Warbucks. This new podcast returns to Annie's story. She is now a teenager who is working with her friends to solve a mystery and save the Warbucks business.



WEBSITE OF THE WEEK



A wolf

EXPLORE

Explore.org

This site is perfect for animal lovers. It is filled with live feeds from webcams filming creatures all over the world. You can check out wolves in Minnesota, birds in Panama, the wildlife action at a watering hole in Kenya, and much more. There are plenty of kittens and puppies to watch, too.



VIDEO OF THE WEEK

HOW THE MARIO CHARACTERS GOT THEIR NAMES

tinyurl.com/TWJUS-MarioNames

Before Nintendo's most famous character was named Mario, he was called Jumpman, Mr. Video, and Ossen ("middle-aged guy" in Japanese). His friends went through wild name journeys, too. This video takes you along for that ride.





BOOK OF THE WEEK

Spy School: The Graphic Novel

By Stuart Gibbs, illustrated by Anjan Sarkar
(Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers)

The first story in the popular Spy School series comes to life as a graphic novel. Just like in the original, Ben, age 12, is mistakenly recruited by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). He leaves home to attend "science school," which is actually a training headquarters for spies. From the moment he arrives, he realizes that being a spy is going to be harder than he thought. He soon learns that a fellow student is working with an enemy. Ben and his friend Erica need to figure out who is being disloyal and stop them. If you've read the series, it's fun to compare how the characters are drawn in the book to how you might have imagined them to look. There's a nice balance between words and pictures. While some comic panels are wordless, many contain great dialogue.

WIN A BOOK!

We're giving away five copies of *Spy School: The Graphic Novel*.

For a chance to win, send your name and address to contests@theweekjunior.com with *Spy School* in the subject line. Enter by midnight on February 25. See theweekjunior.com/terms for complete rules.

ASK THE ILLUSTRATOR

Anjan Sarkar

We spoke to *Spy School: The Graphic Novel*'s illustrator.

Have you always enjoyed drawing?

Yes! As a child, doodling silly faces greatly amused me. It still does!

Did you like to play spy when you were a child?

I have three older sisters. So I think I probably spied (incompetently) on them.

What seems exciting to you about being a spy?

I think the coolest thing about being a spy would be uncovering and stopping

evil villains. Also, you probably get to blow up a lot of stuff.

Do you read a book before illustrating it?

The first thing I do is get comfortable and read the book. I usually read the book twice. I do one relaxing read through. Then I do another read so I can make notes about the illustrations that I will be drawing.

Hot chocolate or tea?

Both! But not in the same cup.



4 football books full of facts and history

Check out these picks to get excited for the Super Bowl on February 13.



The Everything Kids' Football Book

By Greg Jacobs

(Adams Media)

This 7th edition contains cool

information, whether you've been a football fan for a while or are new to the sport. There's a full chapter about the Super Bowl. When you want a break from reading, try the book's puzzles, mazes, and other games. *Ages 9–12*



Football GOATs: The Greatest Athletes of All Time

By Bruce Berglund

(Capstone Press)

Read all about the achievements of the top football players in history. For the quarterback position, the book compares the records of Tom Brady and Peyton Manning and leaves it up to you to decide who is the best player. A helpful glossary comes at the end. *Ages 8–11*



Gridiron: Stories from 100 Years of the National Football League

By Fred Bowen,

illustrated by James E. Ransome

(Margaret K. McElderry Books)

The great writing and full-page paintings will make you feel like you're watching the games that are covered in this book. The Super Bowl chart is also fun to study. *Ages 8 and up*



Pigskins to Paintbrushes: The Story of Football-Playing Artist Ernie Barnes

By Don Tate

(Harry N. Abrams)

Ernie Barnes wasn't interested in football in high school, but he played anyway and ended up in the NFL in the 1960s. In this biography, you'll discover how he fulfilled his dream of becoming an artist. *Ages 6–10*

READER RECOMMENDS

Undercover Princess By Connie Glynn

"Undercover Princess is about Lottie Pumpkin and Ellie Wolf, an unlikely pair of complete opposites who are bonded by a big secret. They face the challenges of guarding their secret and solving a mystery at Rosewood Hall, all while Jamie Volk tries to interfere at every turn. If you like mysteries and twisted fairy tales, this is the novel for you!" Molly, 10, North Carolina

Do you have a book to recommend? Send your review to hello@theweekjunior.com.





How to...

WOW!

The average person spends the equivalent of 33 years in bed during their lifetime.



Create a cozy room

Give your space a winter refresh with these simple steps.

If you find yourself already wishing for spring when there are still several weeks of winter left, one way you can feel more energized is to practice "hygge." Pronounced "hue-guh," this idea originated in Denmark, a country that has very cold winters. It is when people take purposeful steps to feel cozy and content and to appreciate the small things in life. You can follow the main principles of hygge to spruce up your bedroom so it's a more relaxing place to spend time. Here are some ideas for getting started.

Get rid of clutter

Before you start adding cozy elements to your space, take a look around to see what you could pack away to use at a later time or give away to someone who could use it. Ask a parent for two boxes: one for stuff you want to store in a closet and another for items you want to donate. Once your room is tidy, you may find that you already feel more peaceful.

Think about light

In winter, there are fewer hours of sunlight to enjoy, because the sun rises later and sets earlier than it does during other times of the year. That's why a significant part of practicing hygge is to add soft

lights to your space. One simple way to do this is to keep a small lamp on when you're in your room. A lamp delivers softer light than an overhead ceiling light. You could also hang up a string of fairy lights above your bed or in another area of your room. Or ask an adult if your family has any battery-operated candles you could use as decor.

Consider your colors

According to hygge, the colors in your surroundings can make a difference in how you feel. To feel cozier, try adding warmer colors, such as golden yellow or peachy orange. These soft and slightly muted colors can make a space seem smaller and cozier compared to cool colors like mint green and icy blue.

Add layers

Many Danish homes are decorated with pillows and blankets to add a comfy feel. Ask a parent if there are extra blankets, throw pillows, or small rugs you could use in your room. You could make a pile of them in a corner for a special reading spot. Or add them to your bed and desk chair. Not only will items like blankets make your room look inviting, they will also make you feel warmer when you cuddle up in them.



Get ready to snuggle.

5 indoor activities to try at home

If you're inside more these days, here are some fun ways to pass the time.

Try an indoor picnic

Spread a blanket on the floor of your house, set up pillows to sit on, and enjoy lunch with your family.



Camp out inside

With your family or a friend, make a tent using blankets and

furniture in your bedroom, roll out sleeping bags, and tell ghost stories.



Do a puzzle

Research has shown that completing jigsaw puzzles can reduce stress and boost your problem-solving skills.



Have a PJs day

If you're home for a snow day, why not stay in your pajamas all day?



Read books, snuggle under blankets, and eat breakfast for dinner!

Bake something new to you

Trying a new recipe is a nice way to spend a day at home. You won't be rushed when following the directions, and then you'll get to taste the sweet results.





SWEET MESSAGES
About 145 million Valentine's Day cards are exchanged every year in the US.

Make valentine cards

What you need

- Scrap paper and other construction paper
- Ink pads (or craft paint and a paper plate)
- Blank cards (or heavy paper that you fold into a card)
- Marker
- String, optional
- Scissors
- White clear-drying glue

Instructions

1. These cards are decorated using fingerprints and thumbprints. Start by practicing making prints on scrap paper. Press the pad of your finger or thumb onto an ink pad and then press it onto paper. Try to keep your thumb or finger parallel to the paper and push straight down so you get the full print. If you don't have an ink pad, spread watered-down craft paint on a paper plate and use that to make your thumbprints and fingerprints.
2. To make the card with hearts all over it, start by making one thumbprint

diagonally to the left on your paper. Let it dry for a few seconds, then add another thumbprint diagonally to the right with the bottoms of your thumbs lining up and overlapping. Make more hearts all over your paper, either in random spots or in a pattern, such as stripes.

3. To make the people made out of thumbprints, start with a thumbprint heart, as described in step 2. Let the ink dry. Use a marker to add a face, arms, and legs. You can leave the people as they are, or you can take another piece of paper, cut

out a small square, and write a message on it, such as "I love you." Glue it to the card and draw a line for a stick if you want to show the person holding the sign.

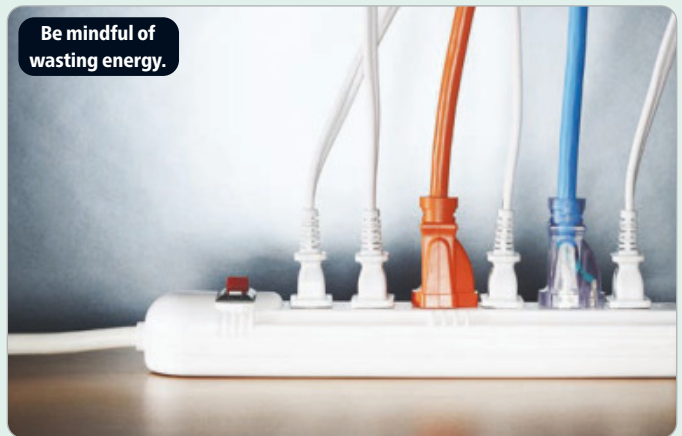
4. For the bee card, use your thumb to print a yellow bee body. Use your pinky to print two sets of wings. Allow those to dry for a few minutes and then draw on stripes, a face, and a stinger. Cut a talk bubble out of colored paper, write "Bee mine," and glue it to the card.
5. For the balloon card, make one thumbprint heart, like in step 2. Then draw a triangle at the bottom of the heart to look like the balloon's knot. Glue a string on the card coming from the balloon.
6. To make the rock card, use several fingers to print different-sized rocks in a pile shape. Print out (or hand-write) "You rock!" onto different-colored paper and cut it out to make a sign. Glue it to the card and draw on a stick.



ECO TIP OF THE WEEK CHARGE DEVICES MORE EFFICIENTLY

If your family has a laptop or tablet that you share or that you use for school, you may be used to charging it overnight. While it's convenient to charge devices while you sleep, it's not the most eco-friendly time to charge them. This is because a charger continues to use electricity as long as it's plugged into an outlet. This is true even after your device is fully charged. To save energy, try to charge a device when you're able to unplug it and the charger from the outlet as soon as the battery is full. If you put a tablet or phone on airplane mode, that will help it charge faster, which also helps to use less energy.

Be mindful of wasting energy.





Puzzles

Crisscross

Each of these things that are red fits into this grid. Can you find where each one goes to complete the grid?

4 letters

BARN
BEET
CRAB
LIPS
MARS
ROSE

5 letters

APPLE
HEART

7 letters

COKE CAN
SUNBURN

8 letters

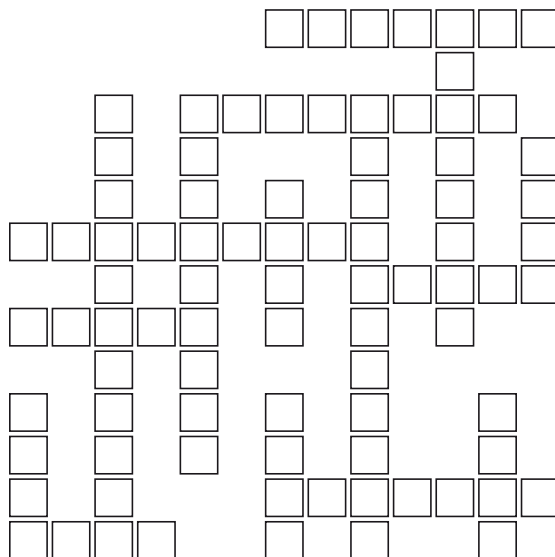
CARDINAL
CLIFFORD

9 letters

CRANBERRY
VALENTINE

11 letters

CHILI PEPPER
FIRE HYDRANT



Take five

Five 5-letter things associated with Valentine's Day are hidden in this grid. For each one, the first letter is somewhere in the first column, the second is somewhere in the second column, and so on. Can you find all five?

C	O	A	O	S
A	U	R	E	D
H	A	R	I	T
R	E	P	R	S
C	R	S	D	W

SUDOKU

To complete the grid, place the numbers from 1 to 6 exactly once in each row, column, and 2x3 bold-lined box.

	1				4
		4		1	
3			1		
		6			5
	3		5		
6				2	

ALL THE SAME

Each answer contains the letters V-A-L. Those letters have been placed for you. Can you figure out the words? (NEED A HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)

1. Low area between two mountains

VAL

2. Sudden rush of a lot of snow down a mountain

VAL

3. "___ of the fittest" (phrase related to evolution)

VAL

4. Room where the President works

VAL

5. Knight's code of honorable behavior

VAL

ANSWERS
CAN BE
FOUND ON
PAGE 29.

Spot the difference

These two pictures of a skier appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?





Is this really a potato?

Proof required for giant spud

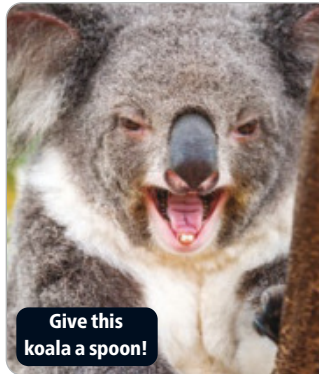
Colin and Donna Craig-Brown, a couple in New Zealand, grew a 17.2-pound potato in their vegetable garden last year. They named the potato Dug (because it was dug up) and claimed it was the biggest one in the world, far surpassing the previous record-holder's weight of 10 pounds, 14 ounces. Now they have to prove that Dug is truly a potato by providing a sample of the spud's DNA to Guinness World Records. (DNA is a chemical that carries all the information about a living thing.) "We will do everything they ask of us," said Colin, who confirmed that Dug will undergo DNA testing and analysis.

Worth the wait?

Long lines outside amusement park rides are common, but video footage of people waiting in line at Walt Disney World in Florida went viral for a different reason. Some park visitors waited nearly six hours to buy a limited-edition bucket of popcorn. The buckets were in the shape of Figment, a purple dragon character from a ride at Epcot. Even longtime Disney fans were surprised at the length of the line.



People waited six hours for this.



Give this koala a spoon!

A well-mannered bear

A koala in Australia named Franklin surprised the people caring for him by using a spoon to eat. He did it on his own without any prompting. One of Franklin's caregivers at a koala rescue facility, where sick and orphaned koalas live, almost fell off her chair when he reached for the utensil. "Who says [koalas] can't do anything a human can do?" the organization wrote on social media.

Real or fake?

Do these candles make you hungry?



Candles that smell like soup

Get a whiff of this: Campbell's, the US-based food company, has released a line of candles that smell like its famous soups. The company said it created the candles so the familiar scents could provide comfort and joy on a cold winter day. The candles come in two popular varieties — chicken noodle soup, and tomato soup and grilled cheese — and are available to buy online and in some stores. Is this story real, or does something about it broth-er you?*



The miniature park

World's smallest park makes big move

The world's smallest park has moved to a new location. After being demolished during a construction project, it was reconstructed and returned to its roadside location about six inches from its original spot in Portland, Oregon. This may not sound like much of a move — except the park is only two feet wide. It was officially named the world's smallest park by Guinness World Records in 1971.

*Real! The soupy sales will even benefit a good cause, with some of the proceeds going to Feeding America, an organization that supports food pantries.



Your turn

Editor's note

When we sent the first issue of *The Week Junior* to the printer in March 2020, we could hardly imagine completing 10 issues. Creating this magazine was a huge undertaking, something never before done in America, and we were moving forward week by week. Now we're coming up on 100 issues of *The Week Junior*—an amazing milestone that feels spectacular! We will have several surprises in that issue for our readers, and we also want to feature the most important people in our community—YOU! In the box below, we invite you to take our 100 Challenge and send us a photo and note about it. Do anything you like! One reader ran up and down the stairs 100 times. Another made 100 dumplings. Use your imagination—we want to hear from you! Send your submissions to hello@theweekjunior.com. And thank you in advance for making this milestone possible.



Andrea Barbalich
Editor-in-Chief

How writing a poem changed my life

“When I was 8, I was diagnosed with ASD (autism spectrum disorder). School has always been tough for me, but with help from my parents and my teachers, I got through each grade.

In fifth grade, I had to write an I AM poem. I had never written anything before, but as I sat in class the words just came to me. I finished the last three or four lines at home that night. It was about how I felt as a boy on the spectrum, living in a neurotypical world. My dad put it on the National Autism Association Facebook page, and I was not ready for what came next.

My poem went viral worldwide! It was translated into over 20 languages and turned into songs. In November 2021, my poem was published as a children's book. The title is *I Am Odd, I Am New*, and it is illustrated by Roz MacLean. I still can't believe that my book is

available in stores and libraries everywhere! Currently, I've written two more books and I am working on a third one. They are stories about my life and living with autism but through the eyes of Monty, my pet snake.”



Benjamin,
16, New York

Have you done something interesting or raised money for a cause you care about? Whatever you're up to, we want to hear about it at hello@theweekjunior.com.

CHARITY OF THE WEEK



National Diaper Bank Network

This organization provides diapers and more to families across the US. It aims to end diaper need, which is when a person doesn't have enough money to afford diapers for their child. The group partners with volunteers, donors, and elected officials to raise awareness of the problem. It has a network of diaper banks and community programs that people can turn to for help. Find out more at nationaldiaperbanknetwork.org.



RIDDLE OF THE WEEK
What gets harder to catch the faster you run?
Your breath

Take our 100 Challenge for our 100th issue!

The Week Junior will publish its 100th issue on March 18! To celebrate, we invite you to take our 100 Challenge. Set a goal to do 100 of something. For example, you could read 100 pages of a book, collect 100 items for a food drive, or do 100 sit-ups. It's your choice, so let your creativity soar! After you finish, have an adult take your photo and send it to us, along with your first name, age, state, and a few sentences about your achievement to hello@theweekjunior.com. We will publish a selection of submissions in Issue 100.



THE WEEK
Junior

IT'S YOUR TURN

Email your news, views, and photos to hello@theweekjunior.com.



YOUR PHOTOS

We'd love to see pictures you've taken or pictures with you in them! Send them to us at hello@theweekjunior.com, along with anything you'd like to tell us about what's in the photo.



"We love reading all the kid-friendly news. The issue about White House Pets is a favorite." Lorelei, 10 (left), with Amelia, 6 (right), California



"It was very fun to make Dali-style art! I used the newspaper, colored pencils, and markers. I love *The Week Junior*!"
Caroline, 11, South Dakota

POPJAM

Sign up and follow @theweekjunior on PopJam, a social media platform for kids 7–12. Ask an adult to download the app from iTunes or Google Play.

We asked: Which Winter Olympics sport are you most excited to watch?

"Bobsledding because it's like watching people on a roller coaster."

"Skating looks so pretty and has true talent."

"I like watching people ski, because of all the fast sharp turns."

In the big debate we asked: Should parents track their children?

"Yes. They can make sure their children aren't in trouble or hurt."

"Not tracking their kids shows trust."

"My mom tracks my phone and I feel safer when she does."

"No, it would be kind of weird especially if your kid is well behaved."

Now tell us: What is your favorite Super Bowl snack and why?



Teacher OF THE WEEK

Teacher's Name: **Mr. Verner**

School: **Clovercroft Elementary School**

"My fifth grade teacher, Mr. Verner, is my favorite teacher of all time, and I'm so lucky. He plays games with us, such as Risk It or Take It when we talk about our reading materials. When we answer correctly, we earn chances to play Chuck the Chicken, in which we try to shoot a rubber chicken into a recycling bin. I feel like he cares about me and my classmates."

Emory, 11, Tennessee

Nominate your teacher for Teacher of the Week! Send your reason for the nomination, a photo of your teacher, and your school's name and address to hello@theweekjunior.com.



Puzzle answers (from page 26)

Take five

Cupid
arrow
heart
roses
cards

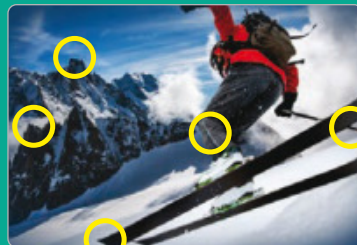
All the same

1. valley
2. avalanche
3. survival
4. Oval Office
5. chivalry

2	1	3	6	5	4
5	6	4	3	1	2
3	2	5	1	4	6
1	4	6	2	3	5
4	3	2	5	6	1
6	5	1	4	2	3

COKE CAN

C C L I F F O R D
H R I D B
I A L R I E
V A L E N T I N E
I B P H E A R T
A P P L E S Y L
E R R R D M
C P Y O A A
R P Y O A A
A E S U N B U R N
B A R N E T S



Quiz answers (from page 30)

1 32 2 False. The Pokédex is a hand-written notebook. 3 c) 11 4 b) Because of Winn-Dixie 5 False. They can grow up to 6 feet long. 6 a) Dragon 7 a) Greece 8 The Central Intelligence Agency 9 True 10 b) 2005 11 Venus Williams 12 c) 27 13 Roald Dahl 14 a) Alpine skiing 15 A spoon

We want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your full name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give *The Week Junior* consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.



Quiz of the week

How much of this week's news can you remember?

1 How many teams currently play in the National Football League?

2 True or false? In the game Pokémon Legends: Arceus, the Pokédex is a digital tablet.

True ☐ False ☐

3 How old was Stevie Wonder when he signed with Motown Records?

a) 15 b) 13 c) 11

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

4 What was the name of author Kate DiCamillo's first book?

a) *Tiger Rising*

b) *Because of Winn-Dixie* c) *Oliver Twist*

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

5 True or false? A female blanket octopus can grow up to 10 feet long.

True ☐ False ☐

6 People waited in line up to six hours at Disney World to buy a bucket of popcorn shaped like which of the following?

a) Dragon b) Mouse c) Elephant

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

7 In which country was the painter El Greco born in 1541?

a) Greece b) Italy c) Spain

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

8 In *Spy School: The Graphic Novel*, Ben is mistakenly recruited by which agency?



ANSWERS
CAN BE
FOUND ON
PAGE 29.



9 True or false? There are seven new events debuting at the 2022 Winter Olympics.

True ☐ False ☐

10 The United Nations established International Holocaust Remembrance Day in what year?

a) 2003 b) 2005 c) 2007

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

11 Which athlete did actress Saniyya Sidney portray in the new film *King Richard*?

12 How many years has Justice Stephen Breyer served on the US Supreme Court?

a) 25 b) 30 c) 27

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

13 Who is the author of classic books including *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and *The BFG*?

14 Mikaela Shiffrin is trying to win her third consecutive gold medal in which Olympic sport?

a) Alpine skiing

b) Freestyle skiing

c) Ski jumping

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

15 Franklin, a koala, surprised the people caring for him by eating with which utensil?

THE WEEK Junior

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THE WEEK Junior

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66%**

Loved by kids. Trusted by adults. Enjoyed by all.

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ISLAND LIFE

A macaque monkey sits on a rock in Mauritius, an island country in the Indian Ocean. Macaques are also found in Asia, Europe, and Africa.